

## REMARKS

The allowability of claims 16-19 and 24 is acknowledged appreciatively and accepted, albeit that claim 24 continues to depend from claim 13 in order to avoid an independent claim fee.

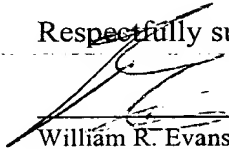
The rejections of independent claim 13 and, thus, the other claims under 35 USC 102 for anticipation by the cited Konishi, et al. and Miyamoto, et al. patents are traversed by the amendment of claim 13 to require that all the shields extend downwards. Other amendments to the claims do not limit them and, therefore, do not invoke any present Festo decision in correspondence with their previous presentation.

In the Konishi, et al. and Miyamoto, et al. patents at least part of the shields extends horizontally, which could accumulate solids and puddle liquids that fall from the transporters for the shielding action of the shields. While this may shield works under the shields, as do the claimed shields, it undesirably accumulates waste, whereby claim 13 is

not obvious from the patents, either.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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William R. Evans  
c/o Ladas & Parry  
26 West 61<sup>st</sup> Street  
New York, New York  
Reg. No. 25858  
Tel. No. (212) 708-1930